

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of remotely controlling wireless network devices comprising:  
broadcasting a wireless menu request from a control device to electronic devices connected to a wireless local area network (LAN);  
receiving a wireless menu response from one of said electronic devices;  
selecting said one of said electronic devices; and  
establishing a control connection with said selected electronic device via said wireless LAN.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein,  
said step of broadcasting comprises transmitting a menu request to electronic devices capable of communicating using a predetermined protocol compatible with the control device, and  
said step of receiving comprises receiving a menu response only from said electronic devices capable of communicating using said predetermined protocol.

3. The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of transmitting comprises transmitting a menu request to electronic devices capable of communicating using a hypertext transfer protocol (http).

4. The method of Claim 2, wherein said step of establishing a control connection comprises establishing a control connection directly between the control device and electronic device using said predetermined protocol.

5. The method of Claim 1, wherein  
said step of broadcasting a wireless menu request comprises broadcasting said menu request to electronic devices connected to the wireless LAN and using a communication protocol incompatible with said control device, and  
said step of establishing a control connection comprises establishing a control connection between said control device and said electronic device via a main server of said wireless LAN, the main server including protocol conversion software for translating

communication messages between the control device and electronic device.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein said broadcasting comprises transmitting said wireless menu request at a predetermined transmit power corresponding to a communication area of said wireless LAN.

7. The method of Claim 6, further comprising adjusting said predetermined transmit power on said control device to change said communication area of said wireless LAN.

8. The method of Claim 6, wherein said transmitting at a predetermined transmit power comprises:

determining a signal strength of said wireless menu response; and

setting a transmit power of said control device based on said signal strength determined.

9. The method of Claim 1, wherein said receiving comprises receiving a plurality of said wireless menu responses from a plurality of electronic devices connected to said wireless LAN.

10. The method of Claim 9, wherein said step of selecting said electronic device comprises:

displaying a list of said plurality of electronic devices; and

selecting one of said plurality of electronic devices based on user selection from said list.

11. The method of Claim 10, wherein said displaying a list comprises displaying a text list of said plurality of devices.

12. The method of Claim 10, wherein said displaying a list comprises displaying a graphical menu including said plurality of wireless devices.

13. The method of Claim 10, wherein said step of displaying a list comprises:

displaying a first portion of said plurality of electronic devices from which a wireless identification message is received;

displaying an option to display others of said plurality of electronic devices; and

displaying a second portion of said plurality of wireless devices based on user selection of said option to display others of said plurality of electronic devices.

14. The method of Claim 10, wherein said displaying a list comprises displaying a list of said plurality of electronic devices in a predetermined order.

15. The method of Claim 14, wherein said displaying a list of said plurality of wireless devices in a predetermined order comprises displaying a list of said plurality of wireless devices based on the frequency of user access to the electronic devices.

16. A control device for remotely controlling wireless network devices comprising:  
a transmitter configured to broadcast a wireless menu request from the control device to electronic devices connected to a wireless local area network (LAN);

a receiver configured to receive a wireless menu response from one of said electronic devices; and

a processor in communication with said transmitter and receiver, said processor configured to select said one of said electronic devices and establish a control connection with said selected electronic device via said wireless LAN.

17. The control device of Claim 16, wherein,

said transmitter is configured to broadcast a wireless menu request by transmitting a menu request to electronic devices capable of communicating using a predetermined protocol compatible with the control device, and

said receiver is configured to receive a wireless menu response by receiving a menu response only from said electronic devices capable of communicating using said predetermined protocol.

18. The control device of Claim 17, wherein said transmitter is configured to transmit a menu request by transmitting the menu request to electronic devices capable of

communicating using a hypertext transfer protocol (http).

19. The control device of Claim 17, wherein said processor is configured to establish a control connection by establishing a control connection directly between the control device and electronic device using said predetermined protocol.

20. The control device of Claim 16, wherein  
said transmitter is configured to broadcast a wireless menu request by broadcasting said menu request to electronic devices connected to the wireless LAN and using a communication protocol incompatible with said control device, and  
said processor is configured to establish a control connection by establishing a control connection between said control device and said electronic device via a main server of said wireless LAN, the main server including protocol conversion software for translating communication messages between the control device and electronic device.

21. The control device of Claim 16 wherein said transmitter is configured to broadcast a wireless menu request by broadcasting said wireless menu request at a predetermined transmit power corresponding to a communication area of said wireless LAN.

22. The control system of Claim 21, further comprising an adjustment device for adjusting said predetermined transmit power on said transmitter to change said communication area of said wireless LAN.

23. The control system of Claim 21, wherein said processor is configured to:  
determine a signal strength of said wireless menu response; and  
set a transmit power of said transmitter based on said signal strength determined.

24. The control system of Claim 16, wherein said receiver is configured to receive a plurality of said wireless menu responses from a plurality of electronic devices connected to said wireless LAN.

25. The control system of Claim 24, wherein said processor is configured to select

said electronic device by:

displaying a list of said plurality of electronic devices on a display; and  
selecting one of said plurality of electronic devices based on user selection from said list.

26. The control device of Claim 25, wherein said processor is configured to display a list by displaying a text list of said plurality of devices on said display.

27. The control device of Claim 25, wherein said processor is configured to display a list by displaying a graphical menu including said plurality of wireless devices on said display.

28. The control device of Claim 25, wherein said processor is configured to display a list by:

displaying on the display a first portion of said plurality of electronic devices from which a wireless identification message is received;

displaying on the display an option to display others of said plurality of electronic devices; and

displaying on the display a second portion of said plurality of wireless devices based on user selection of said option to display others of said plurality of electronic devices.

29. The control device of Claim 25, wherein said processor displays a list by displaying a list of said plurality of electronic devices on the display in a predetermined order.

30. The control device of Claim 29, wherein said processor displays a list of said plurality of wireless devices in a predetermined order by displaying on the display a list of said plurality of wireless devices based on the frequency of user access to the electronic devices.

31. A control device for remotely controlling wireless network devices comprising:  
means for broadcasting a wireless menu request from a control device to electronic devices connected to a wireless local area network (LAN);

means for receiving a wireless menu response from one of said electronic devices;  
means for selecting said electronic device; and  
means for establishing a control connection with said selected electronic device via  
said wireless LAN.

32. The control device of Claim 31, wherein said means for broadcasting comprises  
means for transmitting said wireless menu request at a predetermined transmit power  
corresponding to a communication area of said wireless LAN, said system further  
comprising: means for adjusting said predetermined transmit power on said control device to  
change said communication area of said wireless LAN.

33. A computer readable medium containing program instructions for execution on a  
computer system, which when executed by the computer system, cause the computer system  
to perform the steps in the method recited in any one of Claims 1-15.